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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

5       1.    A computer implemented method of delivering a meal to a  
          buyer, comprising:

          selecting a pickup point and a pick up time for the meal  
          by the buyer;

10       transporting to the pickup point the ingredients for the  
          meal in a mobile pickup station, the mobile pickup station  
          including food preparation equipment; and

          preparing the meal at the pickup point for delivery to  
          the buyer at the pickup time.

15       2.    The method of claim 1, wherein selecting a pickup point  
          further includes:

          receiving route information from the buyer;

20       selecting from a plurality of pickup points a pickup  
          point based on the route information.

3.    The method of claim 2, wherein selecting a pickup point  
      further includes:

25       receiving a channel width from the buyer;

          calculating a channel area using the channel width and  
          the route information;

30       determining a set of pickup points from the plurality of  
          pickup points based on the channel area; and

          selecting by the buyer from the set of pickup points a  
          pickup point.

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4.    The method of claim 3, wherein the channel width is  
specified as a distance from a route generated from the route  
5       information.

5.    The method of claim 3, wherein the channel width is  
specified as a buyer preferred traveling time from a route  
10       generated from the route information.

6.    The method of claim 3, wherein the channel width is  
specified as a traveling distance along roadways from a route  
15       generated from the route information.

7.    The method of claim 2, wherein the route information  
includes a plurality of landmarks, the method further  
comprising generating a shortest travel time route between the  
20       landmarks.

8.    The method of claim 2, wherein the route information  
includes a zip code.

9.    The method of claim 2, wherein the route information  
includes a city name.

10.   The method of claim 2, wherein the route information  
30       includes a telephone number.

11.   The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
          compiling buyer arrival times;  
          generating a meal preparation schedule using the  
35       compiled buyer arrival times; and

preparing the meal in accordance with the meal  
preparation schedule.

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12. A computer implemented method for scheduling and delivery  
of a product to a buyer along the buyer's commuting route,  
comprising:

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          receiving route information from the buyer;

          receiving a channel width from the buyer;

          calculating a channel area using the channel width and  
the route information;

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          determining a set of pickup points from the plurality of  
pickup points based on the channel area;

          selecting by the buyer from the set of pickup points a  
pickup point; and

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          dispatching a mobile pickup station to the pickup point,  
the mobile pickup station containing the product for the  
buyer.

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13. The method of claim 12, wherein the channel width is  
specified as a distance from a route generated from the route  
information.

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14. The method of claim 12, wherein the channel width is  
specified as a buyer preferred traveling time from a route  
generated from the route information.

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15. The method of claim 12, wherein the channel width is  
specified as a traveling distance along roadways from a route  
generated from the route information.

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16. The method of claim 12, wherein the route information  
includes a plurality of landmarks, the method further  
5 comprising generating a shortest travel time route between the  
landmarks.

17. A data processing system for delivering a meal to a  
10 buyer, comprising:

      a processor; and

      a memory coupled to the processor, the memory having  
program instructions executable by the process stored therein,  
the program instructions including:

15       selecting a pickup point and a pick up time for the  
cooked meal by the buyer;

      transporting to the pickup point the ingredients for  
the meal in a mobile pickup station, the mobile pickup  
20 station including food preparation equipment; and

      preparing the meal at the pickup point for delivery  
to the buyer at the pickup time.

18. The data processing system of claim 17, wherein the  
25 program instructions for selecting a pickup point further  
include:

      receiving route information from the buyer;

      selecting from a plurality of pickup points a pickup  
30 point based on the route information.

19. The data processing system of claim 18, wherein the  
program instructions for selecting a pickup point further  
include:

35       receiving a channel width from the buyer;

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          calculating a channel area using the channel width and  
the route information;

5       determining a set of pickup points from the plurality of  
pickup points based on the channel area; and

          selecting by the buyer from the set of pickup points a  
pickup point.

10       20. The data processing system of claim 19, wherein the  
channel width is specified as a distance from a route  
generated from the route information.

15       21. The data processing system of claim 19, wherein the  
channel width is specified as a buyer preferred traveling time  
from a route generated from the route information.

20       22. The data processing system of claim 19, wherein the  
channel width is specified as a traveling distance along  
roadways from a route generated from the route information.

25       23. The data processing system of claim 18, wherein the route  
information includes a plurality of landmarks, the program  
instructions further including generating a shortest travel  
time route between the landmarks.

30       24. The data processing system of claim 18, wherein the route  
information includes a zip code.

35       25. The data processing system of claim 18, wherein the route  
information includes a city name.

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26. The data processing system of claim 18, wherein the route information includes a telephone number.

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27. A data processing system for scheduling and delivery of a product to a buyer along the buyer's commuting route, comprising:

10       a processor; and  
      a memory coupled to the processor, the memory having program instructions executable by the process stored therein, the program instructions including:

15           receiving route information from the buyer;  
          receiving a channel width from the buyer;  
          calculating a channel area using the channel width and the route information;  
          determining a set of pickup points from the plurality of pickup points based on the channel area;  
20           selecting by the buyer from the set of pickup points a pickup point; and  
          dispatching a mobile pickup station to the pickup point, the mobile pickup station containing the product  
25           for the buyer.

28. The data processing system of claim 27, wherein the channel width is specified as a distance from a route  
30 generated from the route information.

29. The data processing system of claim 27, wherein the channel width is specified as a buyer preferred traveling time  
35 from a route generated from the route information.

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30. The data processing system of claim 27, wherein the  
channel width is specified as a traveling distance along  
5 roadways from a route generated from the route information.

31. The data processing system of claim 27, wherein the route  
information includes a plurality of landmarks, the method  
10 further comprising generating a shortest travel time commuting  
route between the landmarks.

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